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material on the territorial struggles with the Indians; extracts illustrative of roads, canals, and travel. The material on internal improvements is excellent. The latter part of the volume contains material on slavery, kidnapping, the underground railroad, and the part played by Indiana and her troops in the Civil War. The editors are to be congratulated on the successful performance of their task.

T. C. P.

Joseph Ward of Dakota. By George Harrison Durand. (Boston, New York, and Chicago: The Pilgrim Press, 1913. 252 p. \$1.25)

This is the biography of one of the devoted band of missionaries *in partibus infidelium* who carried the gospel of religion and scholarship into the American frontier. Their lives, whether they were of the Roman church, the Episcopal, or the Methodist, or, as in this case, the Congregationalist, bear a strong family resemblance in the elements of enthusiasm, devotion, and piety. Joseph Ward took the first Congregational church into Dakota. At Yankton he built up a church and then a college. For the latter he sacrificed health and property, seeing always the vision of a new commonwealth and an enlarged democracy. The biography is not well put together; its writer shows no special familiarity with the environment in which Ward lived, but the spirit of the subject stands out in spite of its presentation. The book has a value for the student of religion, education, or state-making in the Missouri Valley.

F. L. P.

Collections of the Nebraska State Historical Society. Edited by Albert Watkins, historian of the society. Volume xvii. (Lincoln, Nebraska: The Nebraska State Historical Society, 1914. 382 p. \$2.50)

Of the twenty-four separate contributions to the seventeenth volume of the *Collections of the Nebraska State Historical Society*, twenty contain material which would prove useful to the writer of a general history of Nebraska, and of these twenty, six include matter of more than local interest. Of the remaining four, two are of general nature and the other two, one by John Lee Webster on the "Work of the Historical Society" and one by James E. Le Rossignol on the "Importance of the Study of Local History," urge the marking of historic sites and indicate a number of places worthy of such commemoration.

Two articles by the editor, one entitled "First Steamboat Trial Trip up the Missouri" and the other the "Oregon Recruit Expedition," give some lively pictures of traffic on the Missouri between 1820 and 1860. The material for both of these papers as well as that for three others by the editor was taken largely from government publications. They ap-

pear to be written hurriedly and contain long but illuminating extracts from the sources.

The American Indian is the subject for five of the most carefully prepared contributions to the volume. James Mooney gives first hand descriptions of life among the western Indians with a special discussion of the Indian woman. He also offers some suggestions for a survey of the ethnology of the Nebraska Indians. Melvin Randolph Gilmore contributes two papers describing the plants used by the Omaha and Dakota Indians. In one of these he makes the statement without giving his authority that "many of the tribes were essentially agricultural," and he considers it remarkable that they passed "directly from the hunter stage to the agricultural stage without coming by way of the commonly intermediate pastoral stage" (p. 317). Perhaps the lack of domestic animals would account for this. A discussion by Harry L. Keefe and Mr. Gilmore on "How Shall the Indian be Treated Historically" gives some first hand information regarding Indian habits of thought, shows a broad appreciation of his customs, and suggests a reasonable basis for historical treatment of the subject.

The remaining fourteen articles relate almost exclusively to purely local history. One of these on the "Influence of Overland Travel on the Early Settlement of Nebraska" suggests that gold-seekers, Mormons, railroad builders, and ex-soldiers stopped on their way West and settled permanently in Nebraska. While this is probably true no proofs are given and there is no estimate of the numbers who settled there.

The footnotes are in general the best written part of the volume. They not only correct slips in the text and explain many things that would otherwise remain vague, but on points of special importance they are little essays that satisfy in their style and completeness. They might very well fit into the text of the history of Nebraska to which the scholarship of the editor has contributed so much.

The book is well printed and attractively bound. It contains four full-page illustrations, two of them showing early steamboat traffic on the Missouri.

PAUL C. PHILLIPS

Personal Experiences among our North American Indians from 1867-1885. By W. Thornton Parker, M.D. (Northampton, Massachusetts: W. T. Parker, 1913. 232 p. \$2.00)

Mr. Parker in this volume has presented us with an interesting account of personal experiences during some twenty years service on the plains. His book, while not ethnological, and by no means technical, sheds considerable light on Indian affairs during that period. He accompanied the 1867 expedition from Fort Leavenworth to New Mexico. The total